

To the Members of the California State Senate:

California foods are what make this state a great place to live and visit. Millions of people eat in California restaurants and food facilities every day – it is a thriving and important sector of our state's economy. Protecting the safety of California's retail food is critical to ensuring the health of consumers.

SB 144 represents a multi-year effort by a coalition of stakeholders with over 100 representatives from the retail food industry, local regulatory agencies, the California Department of Education, the California Department of Health Services and the California Department of Aging. Working together, this new law was crafted to ensure that consumers are protected when they eat at retail food facilities.

SB 144 will better protect consumers of California and I am pleased to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger